MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Cease-Fire Agreement--Following U.S. special envoy Philip Habib's 24 July announcement of a cease-fire, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that the joint command of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Palestinian revolution decided to agree to a cease-fire as of 1700 GMT--3 and 1/2 hours after the cease-fire announced by Habib was to have taken effect. The radio explained later that the joint command's agreement to cease fire was in response to UN appeals and had nothing to do with Habib's efforts. It cited PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat as stating that Israel and the United States cannot unilaterally declare and implement a cease-fire without the approval of the Palestinian side; therefore, the Palestinian side did not cease fire until several hours after Habib's announcement. According to AFP, 'Arafat told UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim that the PLO agreed "in principle" to stop its shelling from Lebanon. This agreement was later transmitted to UNIFIL Commander William Callaghan, AFP said. An earlier Voice of Palestine report said the PLO would abide by the cease-fire provided the other side abides by it as well.

Jerusalem Radio reported that the cease-fire involves a cessation of all hostile activities emanating from Israel and Lebanon, including the area controlled by "free Lebanon" commander Maj Sa'd Haddad. It mentioned that this is the first time that the parties have agreed to describe southern Lebanon as the "Haddad area." According to IDF Radio, Israeli flights over Lebanon for photographic and intelligence purposes will continue, and if terrorist activity is detected Israel will consider itself exempt from its obligations and will respond accordingly. A Jerusalem radio correspondent reported in this regard that there is an unwritten understanding between Israel and the United States that if terrorist activity against Israeli civilians continues, Israel will be released from its agreement to stop firing.

Cease-Fire Violations--Jerusalem radio claimed that on 24 July the Palestinians violated the cease-fire three times by firing into the border strip, and it said that the IDF and Major Haddad's forces did not return fire. In a 25 July statement broadcast by the Voice of Palestine's English service, a Palestinian military spokesman explained that one of the 24 July incidents had involved a "misunderstanding." He affirmed that the PLO and joint forces respect all international agreements. The radio also claimed that the cease-fire was broken by Israeli shelling shortly after it went into effect.

On 25 July, according to a Jerusalem radio report, 90 Katyusha rockets and 40 artillery shells were fired at the Christian enclave during the morning. The radio reported that neither the IDF for the Christian militia returned fire and said the Galilee panhandle and western Galilee remained calm. The Voice of Palestine acknowledged that some shelling across the border strip had occurred but maintained that the cease-fire was holding. Referring to the Palestinian shelling in remarks broadcast by the Voice of Hope radio, Haddad said his forces would not keep quiet the next time, asserting that they have a legitimate right to defend themselves. AFP, citing residents of An-Nabatiyah, reported that shells fired from Marj 'Uyun on 25 July landed at Al-Armaq, 8 km east of An-Nabatiyah, while Beirut radio claimed that Israeli aircraft flying over the coastal area in the south drew ground fire the same day.

Voice of Palestine said "calm and caution" prevailed in southern Lebanon and in the border areas on 26 July, although it reported that Israeli planes overflew the south and Beirut, drawing ground fire. Voice of Lebanon radio, however, claimed that an Israeli gunboat shelled the area surrounding the Az-Zahrani oil refinery and that Israeli vehicles and tanks crossed the border in the western sector of southern Lebanon and took up positions near the Al-Bayyadah-Al-Jibbayl-Shama' triangle.

Jerusalem radio reported that the cease-fire was violated again on 27 July, claiming that a Katyusha volley and light arms fire were directed at the Christian enclave west of Misgav 'Am.

'Arafat Press Conference--In a 25 July press conference broadcast by the Voice of Palestine, Yasir 'Arafat said the Palestinians' conditions for a cease-fire were that Israel stop all of its land, sea and air operations against the Lebanese and Palestinian people, that Haddad's force not be used as an umbrella for Israeli attacks, and that Israeli forces covered by the Haddad umbrella stop attacking the UNIFIL or the villages within its area of operations. Arafat asserted that he will consider Israel overflights of Palestinian positions a "hostile action" and will deal with them accordingly. In a separate report on the press conference, the radio cited 'Arafat as saying that the Palestinians would cease fire across the Lebanese border but will "absolutely not" cease fire inside Israel.

Also reporting on the press conference, Beirut radio noted that 'Arafat said he hopes that the United States will recognize the PLO as a fact of life and as a factor in the Middle East equation. Radio Monte Carlo reported that in response to a question as to whether the PLO accepts the Israeli view that the reinforcement of the Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon constitutes a violation of the cease-fire agreement, 'Arafat said he considers the reinforcement of the Israeli troops as a violation of the agreement.

Eytan Interview--In a 24 July interview broadcast by IDF Radio, Israel Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said the cease-fire resulted from the near breakdown of the "terrorists'" operational framework in Lebanon. He predicted, however, that the Palestinians will try to reorganize with the assistance of Syria, the Soviet Union and Libya, and that this may portend the end of the cease-fire. Eytan asserted that Israel has not said the last word about its military operations and still has many options "that are more or less drastic" to use against the Palestinians. Claiming that Israel received no guarantees from U.S. envoy Philip Habib that "terrorist" activity will not resume, he said Israel has thus not changed its policy. He admitted, however, that if the current situation leads to a complete end of terror, then Israel may have to consider a change in policy.

Questioned about the Syrian role in reaching a cease-fire agreement, Eytan said that, officially, the Syrians took no part in the firing incidents and consequently are not a party to the matter, explaining that they were involved in Habib's negotiations only insofar as the missile crisis was concerned. Eytan asserted that the Syrians should be held responsible for every "terrorist" activity in view of their collusion with the Palestinians in perpetrating such acts. He acknowledged that some of the Palestinian bases are under the umbrella of the Syrian SAM missiles, but observed that this will not offer them any immunity.

Shamir, Peres on Cease-Fire--In an interview broadcast by IDF Radio, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said there is no agreement, either direct or indirect, with the "terrorists" and that Habib did not conduct negotiations with them. Asked whether the cease-fire agreement was with the Government of Lebanon or only with the United States, Shamir described it as an agreement obtained by the U.S. President's envoy. The radio cited Israeli Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres as asserting, however, that the United States made an agreement with the PLO through the Saudis and that there is no point in trying to conceal this fact.

PFLP-GC Rejection of Cease-Fire--According to the Voice of Palestine, a source in the Palestinian revolution has expressed surprise at the statement issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) in which it rejected the cease-fire and described it as a "suspect decision." The source observed that the front's representatives in the PLO Executive Committee, in the Palestinian-Lebanese Joint Command and in the Supreme Military Council participated in the formulation and adoption of the decision. According to AFP, the PFLP-GC issued a second statement, on 27 July, accusing 'Arafat of having presented the Palestinian and Lebanese leftist forces with a fait accompli in the acceptance of the cease-fire after having "unilaterally" committed himself and Saudi Arabia to it. IDF Radio reported that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin expressed hope on 26 July that the cease-fire will hold but mentioned that the PFLP-GC has already announced that the agreement does not apply to it. According to the radio, Begin said that if the cease-fire violations by the PFLP-GC or any other organization continue, the agreement will cease to exist and Israel will adopt measures to restore peace and security.

Beirut Situation--The Voice of Lebanon reported tension in the capital on 26 July following earlier reports of clashes in the eastern part of the city. Beirut radio said there were violent exchanges along the contact lines on 25 July.

Arab Followup Committee Meeting--According to a statement issued at the close of its 25-26 July meetings at B'abda Palace in Beirut, the Arab followup committee, consisting of the Saudi, Kuwaiti and Syrian foreign ministers and the Arab League secretary general, discussed the situation in southern Lebanon and the letter to Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis from Phalangist leader Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil concerning the termination of all dealings with Israel. According to the statement, broadcast by Beirut radio, the committee decided to continue its discussion on 3 September, at which time a dialogue will begin under the supervision of the committee and in the presence of various parties to achieve a political accord. The radio said Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan told reporters on 26 July that Lebanon has decided to ask the Arab League general secretariat to convene an Arab summit as soon as possible.

Arab Defense Council Resolutions--Voice of Palestine cited political observers as describing the Arab Defense Council resolutions as "frail" and not on a par with the Israeli-U.S. threats against the Arab nation. The radio said the resolutions fell far short of expectations.

'Arafat Meets Soviet Ambassador--The Voice of Palestine reported that on 24 July Yasir 'Arafat met with Soviet ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov to exchange views on recent developments. According to the radio, the Soviet ambassador gave 'Arafat a letter from the Soviet leadership on the current situation in the area.

Soviet Military Support--According to KUNA, a Palestinian official said on 24 July that the "big powers" refuse to provide the PLO with sophisticated weapons to match the military arsenal that the United States makes available to Israel. Refusing to identify the "big powers," the official complained that PLO requests are never rejected or accepted outright and that responses are always postponed. KUNA also cited the Lebanese newspaper AL-LIWA' as reporting that the USSR has so far not responded to PLO requests for SAM-6 and Frog missiles, believing that supplying such sophisticated weapons to it would be tantamount to a declaration of war against Israel at a time when Arab and international conditions are not appropriate. Cairo radio reported that Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan has criticized the Soviet position on the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinians and called on the Soviet leaders to provide everything possible to the Palestinian resistance so that it may confront its enemies more effectively. He explained that greater clarity and direct Soviet support to the Palestinian resistance is required if the Soviet Union wants to maintain its friendship with the Palestinian people and the PLO, the radio said.

Iran

Election Results--Tehran radio reported on 26 July that Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i won 12 million votes in the 24 July presidential election, while his nearest rival garnered 553,000 votes. It also said on 26 July that voting in the Majlis byelection was indecisive in 11 constituencies and that there will be a second ballot. The radio described voter turnout as "unprecedented."

Denial of Plane Crash Report--Tehran radio reported that on 26 July the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a denial of an AP report claiming that an Argentine plane that crashed recently in the Soviet Union was carrying arms from Tel Aviv to Tehran. The ministry linked this "shameless lie" to Soviet reports that the plane had gone down without a trace.

Executions, Arrests--Tehran radio reported that two "Zionist elements" were executed in Kashmar on 26 July for links with Israeli intelligence. According to Shiraz radio, 60 leftists were arrested over the weekend in Borazjan while 24 "suspicious persons" were arrested in Gachsaran and Yasuj. Tehran radio cited the interior minister as saying that 50 people were arrested in Tehran on 24 July and that 70 others were arrested the day before. The radio also said seven people connected with the recent attempt to assassinate a Majlis candidate in Eqlid were arrested.

Attacks, Explosions--Shiraz radio reported that a bomb exploded in the Islamic Republican Party headquarters building in Gachsaran on 24 July, while Tehran radio said two bombs exploded in the capital the same day. Tehran radio also reported that armed assailants attacked a Tehran committee building and the Gilan Governorate supervisor on 25 July and the Rezvanshahr district officer the next day.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENTIAL, MAJLIS ELECTIONS

'Unpresedented' Turnout

LD241852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Interview with Mr Sorureddin, under secretary in the Ministry of Interior, conducted by Tehran radio correspondent on 24 July; place not given--recorded]

[Summary] [Question] Would you be kind enough to brief us on the extent of the turnout in the presidential election and the Majlis byelection?

[Answer] The public turnout for the early hours of this morning has been called unprecedented. Although we provided more ballots than were required in the previous presidential election, by noon today various constituencies were asking the election headquarters for more. This is an indication of the public turnout.

"We distributed 40 million ballots throughout Iran and 4 million in Tehran, and the constituencies' requests for more ballots were dealt with as quickly as possible by using planes and helicopters.

"The turnout forced us to extend the voting deadline from 1500 to 1900 and we decided to continue to accept people's votes."

[Question] When will the counting start?

[Answer] As soon as the poll closes in each station, they will begin counting and check the number of votes cast against the ballots issued at each station. The role of the Interior Ministry's election headquarters will be to coordinate.

[Question] Would you be so kind as to tell us when the outcome of the elections will be announced?

[Answer] God willing, the result of the vote counting will be known within 24 hours and, at the maximum, 2 days. As you know, there is a deadline of 2 days within which anyone may lodge complaints and then there is 1 or 2 days time to investigate any possible complaint. The final answer in fact will be ascertained with 4 or 5 days. This procedure applies both to the Majlis byelection and the presidential election. The only difference will be in the outcome of the election for the president. If none of the presidential candidates achieve the majority required, there will be a second round.

[Question] Would you tell us what the reasons were behind (?the postponement of the election in a number of constituencies?)

[Answer] "As you know, the eligibility of the candidates who wished to contest the Majlis byelection had to be approved by the executive commissions. In these constituencies, although the eligibility of two or three candidates had been approved, 1 or 2 days before the election some candidates withdrew their candidacies. This left some constituencies with only one candidate running, a situation which the Council of Guardians could not approve of. Therefore, elections had to be postponed in Bandar-e 'Abbas, Arak and Mahshahr."

Raja'i Leads

LD262212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that as of 1800 the total number of votes from 1,000 of the 1,964 boxes in Tehran and 66 polling stations outside the country for the presidential elections has been put at nearly 14 million.

Mr Sorureddin, the Interior Ministry political under secretary, told a Central News Unit correspondent that Mr Raja'i has won 12,224,605 votes; Mr Sheybani 553,699 votes; Mr Parvaresh 383,199 votes; and Mr 'Asgar-Owladi 223,103 votes. These votes exclude 344,861 discounted in Tehran. Mr Sorureddin announced the total votes counted in the presidential election as of 1800 as 13,739,491 votes [figures as heard].

Election Day Disturbances

GF251917 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] The criminal U.S. agents in Shiraz tried to create disturbances in a number of places. However, the election was not disrupted by their fruitless efforts and proceeded with calm and in peace. Yesterday's events in Shiraz are as follows:

Yesterday morning a sound bomb was thrown at a car in front of Sa'di Hospital, which resulted in no damage. Also, in front of the Homa Hotel, three Molotov cocktails were thrown at a private car, which also resulted in no damage. On 'Afifabad Street, a car carrying revolution guards crashed into a tree while it was pursuing an armed motorcyclist, resulting in the martyrdom of Brother Nureddin (Kohsali), a member of the guards and leader of the resistance group of the revolution guards of Hojjat ol-Qa'im mosque. Three other brother guards were injured and were taken to the hospital. One of them is in critical condition.

Clandestine Radio on Incidents

NC241956 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] The bogus elections of Khomeyni's regime were held today to endorse the election of Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i as president. Our correspondents' dispatches up to 1600 today state that in Tehran and most other Iranian cities street clashes broke out, many of the ballot boxes were set on fire and a number of bombs exploded. In Esfahan, people demonstrated to protest the fake elections, and clashes broke out between revolution guards and Mojahedin and combatants. No report has been received so far on the number of people killed or wounded.

The elections in Bandar e 'Abbas, Bushehr, Mahshahr, Najafabad, Arak and some other cities were stopped. Our correspondents report that the polling stations were quiet, that most people did not leave their houses and that only club wielding Hezbollahis cast their votes.

The people's nonparticipation in the elections led the officials of Khomeyni's regime to bring villagers in government trucks to the cities to force them to vote. Even the voting age was dropped to 15 from 16. Nevertheless, the people's nonparticipation in the bogus elections has greatly terrified the regime. It is said that most of the ballot boxes were filled in the central election headquarters on Thursday night. In addition, because of the small number of votes cast, officials of Khomeyni's regime decided to continue the elections into tomorrow.

Today's elections, the holding of which was useless since the result was predetermined, were coupled with extensive clashes. Strong security measures were taken at the polling stations and even barriers were set up to prevent street traffic. Nevertheless, in some places people set fire to the polling stations. On Foruqi Street in Tehran, an explosion killed a revolution guard. In the Shahr-e Rey Governorate, another explosion and a Molotov cocktail wounded two people and set on fire a number of cars belonging to the voters.

In an attack by combatants against revolution guards in Tehran, two guards were killed and a number were wounded. Another clash broke out on Vanak highway and 17 revolution guards were killed and a number were wounded.

We have received no (?further details) on the number of people killed or wounded so far. A fierce clash took place in Esfahan. The clashes in Tehran and other cities and towns are continuing, and we will inform you in detail on the clashes.

Another report dispatched by a Free Voice of Iran correspondent an hour ago states that the people's nonparticipation in today's elections has made the regime postpone the closing time of the elections to 1900 today, but it is said in Tehran that the voting will continue on Saturday, too. Millions of votes were already cast by Hezbollahis before the elections started and the number of forged votes to be announced will possibly surpass 12 million.

Despite the extensive clashes and riots during the bogus presidential elections, Khomeyni's officials have announced that the elections took place "in a calm atmosphere" and that a large number of ballots were cast in cities and polling stations. What can be said to describe these ruling liars and shameless people? They will resort to any deceit and trick they can.

The [word indistinct] Mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, whose remarks clearly display his strong terror, referred to a civil war in the play of today's Friday prayers and impudently said that the people [words indistinct].

He was saying this at a time when world news agencies reported this morning that the polling stations and [word indistinct] were (?uncrowded) this morning and except in a few (?places) where organized groups of Hezbollahis and club wielders of committees, headed by Hadi Ghaffari, [words indistinct] other polling stations were empty of voters [words indistinct].

Mahdavi-Kani Reports Arrests

LD261122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] While touring the election headquarters, Mr Mahdavi-Kani, the interior minister, said in an interview that the public's response to the election was unprecedented and greater than in the previous election. He said the counterrevolution is unable to affect the public's will.

Commenting on incidents during the elections, the minister of the interior said: Apart from scattered clashes such as shootings and some explosions, no serious incidents took place. In this connection, 50 people were arrested on the day of the elections and 70 people were arrested the day before in Tehran. He said there are no precise figures on the number of people arrested in other cities.

VIENNA ACCUSED OF AIDING OCCUPATION OF EMBASSY

LD241146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, this morning a number of hypocrites [Mojahedin] occupied the Embassies of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Vienna and Turkey. However, this evil conspiracy was neutralized by the attempts and self-sacrifice of a number of committed Iranian Muslims living abroad, the Hezbollah [Party of God]. During the occupation of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Vienna one person was injured; in Turkey a number of people were injured. Although the police in Vienna were finally forced to arrest a number of the attackers, its extensive cooperation with them could not be kept secret. One of the leaders of the occupiers in Vienna addressing his friends was heard to shout: Don't be frightened. We have talked to the police. They will not do anything before the affair is over. According to this report, the occupation of the embassies of our country came to an end as the result of the extensive support of the committed Iranian Muslims living abroad. At the moment, voting is taking place in these two embassies.

CABINET DISCUSSES DISTURBANCES, OTHER ISSUES

LD251420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Council of Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran held a session this morning. During this session, held after the recitation of some verses from the holy Koran and under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister began by reviewing the country's current political problems in connection with yesterday's elections. Referring to the extensive plot by the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] that was thoroughly supported by the radios and other news media of the Zionists and plundering imperialists, he said: They have now completely lost their popular base and have become a tool in the hands of counterrevolution. For this reason, and in view of the fascist and dictatorial ideology in which they believe, they permit themselves to be ruthless to innocent people, even innocent children, during savage terrorist actions that are aimed at reaching their blind goals.

Mr Raja'i also read a report from the Supreme Defense Council on the situation on the fronts of the imposed war.

Then Mr Nabavi, the government spokesman, gave the Cabinet information on the joint plans of the hypocrites organization and Bani-Sadr that were aimed at fomenting riots and disturbances on 24 July and information on the vast, joint radio propaganda backing the illegal Democratic Party.

Recounting the serious steps taken by counterrevolution yesterday in certain places, including Turkey and Vienna, coupled with the clashes and subversive operations which were fortunately neutralized thanks to the good efforts of faithful and committed students, Minister of Foreign Affairs Musavi then noted that all these joint counterrevolutionary actions took place simultaneously with the 24 July elections.

According to our correspondent's report, during the continuation of today's session of the Council of Ministers, the reports of the Service, Economy and Finance Commissions were raised and debated. A number of these reports were approved. In addition, with the approval of the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Training and Education suggested that female graduates of the teachers' training college and other institutions for the training of secondary school teachers should refund the salaries they received during their training, taking into consideration the period they served as teachers in the permitted regions of the country. If this is done, they would not be subject to the limitations imposed by note No 2 of article 1 of the law for granting credit, which has been enacted for the purpose of implementing the law for the training of teachers and for general education that was approved in January 1947 and amended in 1964. These graduates, with regard to other conditions and privileges and taking into account their period of training at teacher training centers, will be subject to regulations covering other graduates from the teachers training centers.

REPORTAGE ON ATTACKS, ARRESTS, EXECUTIONS

Explosions, Attacks on Guards

LD241440 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that while long and solid lines of the struggling and heroic Iranian people, by taking part in the elections for the president and deputies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, delivered a mighty blow to the enemies of the revolution and of Islam, the lackey agents of the United States exploded a bomb at 0900 today in Forughi Street.

According to eyewitnesses, this bomb was placed inside a gas container. It killed Mohammad Reza Ramazani, one of the brother guards of the committee based in the police headquarters of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The explosion also broke the windows of a building and a shop.

According to the same report, another relatively strong bomb, placed under a bridge near the governorate building of Rey, exploded at 0500 today, killing two pedestrians, wounding two residents of the area and blowing up a number of cars.

The Central News Unit also reports two separate armed attacks against the Islamic revolution guards. The first occurred opposite the (Shohada) township near Yusofabad bridge. The second on the Vansk highway when counterrevolutionary and hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] elements--who during their last days of existence have indulged in a number of futile attempts--fired their U.S.-made bullets at the guards, killing two of these heroic sons of the nation.

Attackers Arrested

LD250832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] According to PARS, following an assassination attempt on the life of Hojjat ol-Eslam Fazel Harandi, a candidate for the Islamic Consultative Assembly in Eqlid, seven people were identified and arrested by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Eqlid. According to the same report, two of the arrested individuals are members of the so-called leftist minigroups.

Another report indicates that two of Hojjat ol-Eslam Harandi's companions, who received superficial bullet wounds during the assassination attempt, are still in the hospital. Their condition is satisfactory.

Attack on Committee

LD251400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, this morning one of the committees in the eighth district [of Tehran] was attacked by a group of assailants. Quoting one of the committee's responsible officials, the report adds: The four to five assailants were armed with G-3 and 'Uzi rifles, handgrenades and grenade launchers and attacked the above-named committee, which is located at the corner of a busy street in southwest Tehran. During this attack, the windowpanes of the committee and the residential houses in its vicinity were broken. An inhabitant of the district was also martyred by bullet fire from the assailants.

The official added: Residents of the district and committee members pursued the assailants, and one of them was arrested while trying to throw a handgrenade at the people. At present he is under detention.

57 Arrested for 'Hostile' Acts

GF251931 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] Because of the efforts of the guards of the Borazjan Islamic Revolution Committee, 57 members of the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq], Peykar and other hostile organizations have been arrested. According to a report by the Central News Unit in Bushehr, 36 were released after they repented and pledged in writing never to undertake hostile activities again. The rest were sent to the Bushehr Islamic Revolution Court.

Explosion in Gachsaran

GF251851 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] Yesterday afternoon a bomb exploded in the Islamic Republican Party headquarters building in Gachsaran, damaging part of the building. According to our correspondent's report, the bomb exploded at 1400. Fortunately, there were no fatalities.

'Troublemakers' Arrested

GF251859 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] Twenty suspicious persons, troublemakers who arrived in Gachsaran from Behbehan yesterday to create unrest in the city, have been arrested. According to our correspondent's report from Yasuj, four suspicious persons were arrested at 2300 by Yasuj revolution guards and a bomb was discovered and defused.

Discovery of Arms Caches

LD250058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpt] After having discovered nearly 20 houses and centers belonging to the pro-American minigroup Peykar, following reports made available by the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, and after the ceaseless endeavors of our brothers in the committee and the corps, your sons have succeeded in discovering an additional five centers belonging to the warring minigroup and have confiscated their contents, placing them in the Muslim treasury. These centers were among the important centers for weapons, publications and (?techniques). The details of the discovered centers are as follows:

At center "A," various types of automatic weapons, including 120 G-3 and M-1 rifles; 40 GD and M-3 machineguns; 1,200 handgrenades; 10,000 rounds of ammunition; 50 teargas grenades; and two large boxes of TNT.

At center "B," various weapons, including 80 G-3 rifles; 150 handgrenades; 2 Kalashnikov and G-3 machineguns; 10 radios; 20 teargas grenades; 30,000 rounds of ammunition; and a considerable quantity of bayonets, helmets and other combat equipment.

At center "C," [words indistinct] a great quantity of documents concerning the organization's operations over the last several years; documents dealing with various congress meetings [as heard] and leadership elections of Peykar; as well as a considerable quantity of various other documents.

At center "D," the supply headquarters containing 4 printing machines; 4 photocopiers; 6 mimeograph machines; 1 IBM typewriter; 4,500 packages of paper and 2 boxes of ink.

At center "E," the organization's electronic complex, operating behind the facade of a refrigerator-manufacturing shop and a check for 1.5 million tomans.

As a result, a number of the Peykar terrorist minigroup members were arrested and handed over to judicial authorities.

Gilan Supervisor Attacked

LD261221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, early last night the car carrying the supervisor of Gilan Governorate came under armed attack. Receiving the news, our correspondents in Rasht contacted Mr Shadnush, the supervisor of Gilan Governorate. He detailed the attack as follows:

Last night, accompanied by the deputy governor and two members of the revolution guards corps, I left my office. A short distance from the office a van carrying sheep caused an accident with our car. Immediately afterwards the van and two other cars parked on two opposite sides of the street opened fire on our car. As a result, I was wounded in my left arm and one of the guards in his forehead. Immediately afterwards the assailants fled the scene.

The supervisor added: The matter was immediately reported to the Gilan gendarmerie and all other security forces, so as to enable them to block the various routes and arrest the assailants.

The supervisor called on the people of the province to remain alert and report any suspicious moves by the counterrevolutionaries to security forces and revolution committees.

Meanwhile, the district office of Rezvanshahr reported this morning that at 0200 two handgrenades were thrown at the house of Mr Bizhan Rafi'-Basiri, the district officer of Rezvanshahr. As a result, the district officer's wife, her sister and his son were wounded. According to reports, the district officer of Rezvanshahr and the others were taken to the hospital for treatment.

2 'Zionist Elements' Executed

LD261319 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1032 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, by verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Kashmar, two international Zionist elements were executed in Kashmar this morning.

According to this report, these two were sentenced to death: (Kamaleddin Dastavar), son of Sadeq, found guilty on charges of membership in the Zionist spy organization, working in the interests of the regime occupying Jerusalem, contacts with Zionist leaders in Israel, membership of and active participation in the spy network of [word indistinct], presence at the center of the Zionist spying networks operating under the guise of the Nonahalan Credit Company [company registered in London and created and founded by Baha'i followers] and its development and contact with the disgraced Pahlavi regime and the defunct SAVAK; and (N'amatollah Kasempur Shahidi), son of Hedayatollah, found guilty on charges of membership in the Zionist spying organization, spying and working in the interests of the regime occupying Jerusalem, establishing direct political and financial relationships with Israel, briefing the Zionist leaders with information concerning top officials and receiving notes of gratitude for his actions, continuous and effective cooperation with the financing-spying organization of the Omana Company which was one of Zionism's information and intelligence bases in Iran, participation in the international Zionist congress in Britain, contact with the disgraced regime of Pahlavi and the defunct SAVAK, the Iran Novin Party [party founded in the mid-1960's and dissolved in 1975 following the creation of a one-party system by the shah] and the defunct [Amir Abbas] Hoveyda [former Iranian premier for 13 years who was executed by the Khomeyni regime], opposition to the Islamic Republic's regime and efforts to subvert it.

The sentences were carried early this morning on the grounds of Kashmar's Revolution Guards Corps headquarters.

Mojahedin House Discovered

GF261849 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] The brother members of the Borazjan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps have discovered a team house belonging to the so-called Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and arrested its three occupants. A large quantity of reports and organizational manuals, including instruction material on the use of serahi [type of homemade grenade] and the recognition of busy places, ripe for creating disturbances, were also discovered.

Mojahedin Houses Searched

LD261819 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Kermanshah Islamic Revolution Committee announced that over the past few days 3 houses relating to the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were discovered and 15 people associated with them were arrested. The guards from the committee identified and pursued them and arrested four of them while they were carrying several Molotov cocktails ready to use. As a result of an investigation, the three houses were discovered. In searching these houses a quantity of documents, papers and means of sabotage were discovered.

Director of Dam, Aide Slain

NC270850 Paris AFP in English 0634 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Text] Tehran, 27 Jul (AFP)--The director of Zarin Rud hydro-electric dam in Western Azarbayjan Province, and his assistant, were murdered by "counter revolutionaries" on Saturday, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper reported today.

The newspaper said that the two men, who were not named, were shot as they drove to the nearby town of Bukan. Azarbayjan has been the scene of numerous skirmishes with security forces since the revolution.

Clashes in Kordestan

NC231107 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Text] Our correspondent has reported that on Monday (?heavy) clashes took place between Kurds and revolution guards in Mahabad. About 12 guards were killed [word indistinct] wounded; (?2) Kurds were killed and some were wounded.

Our correspondent also writes that in Karaj about 4 million tomans in gold and currency were robbed from a (?truck) and one revolution guard was killed in the incident.

Baluchis Increase Attacks

GF261940 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] The wave of attacks by Baluchi fighters in Sistan va Baluchestan Province is increasing. Our reporter in Vahedan has reported that large areas of Sistan va Baluchestan are in the hands of Baluchi fighters. In an attack by Baluchi fighters against the revolution guards post in Chah Bahar, several guards were killed or wounded.

Our reporter adds that during the capture of another [words indistinct] in Sistan va Baluchestan Province near Chah Bahar, heavy clashes occurred between the Baluchi fighters and the mercenary guards, as a result of which six guards were killed and another eight were wounded. In the clash, one Baluchi fighter was martyred and one was wounded.

Baluchi fighters, in a communique, a copy of which is in the hands of our correspondent, have urged all members of the gendarmerie and army not to resist Baluchi tribes and, if ordered to carry out a mission, to surrender and join their Baluchi brothers. The communique also warned all of the people in Sistan va Baluchestan Province against leaving their homes until the Baluchi armed forces have arrived.

AIR FORCE PLANE LANDS IN CAIRO, PILOT DEFECTS

For Cairo media coverage of the arrival of an Iranian Boeing 707 at Cairo International Airport and the press conference held by a member of the plane's flight crew, in which he reports his plans to flee Iran for Egypt, see page D 2 of the Egypt section of the 27 July Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.

Tehran: Steering Difficulty

LD261276 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Statement issued by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 1611 on 25 July [as heard], a 707 aircraft belonging to the Islamic Republic's Air Force, having completed its missions, developed steering difficulties, so much so that the aircraft was unable to turn left or right by more than 5 degrees. As a result, it continued in a straight line and, crossing the border, the aircraft landed at Cairo Airport on the same day at 1853, having received cooperation from airports along its path. The matter is under investigation by the Foreign Ministry.

Meanwhile, measures are being taken to have the aircraft and the crew returned.

Plane, Crew Return

LD262112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Excerpt] The Central News Unit, citing news agencies, has reported that the Iranian Boeing 707 military aircraft has returned to Tehran. The crew of the aircraft, except for one of its pilots who has sought political asylum in Egypt, have returned to Iran onboard the aircraft.

Radio Iran Comments

NC251717 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] A patriotic and freedom-seeking pilot of the Iranian Air Force, who had taken off in a Boeing 707 on a domestic mission, changed his route and, after leaving Iranian airspace, landed at Cairo International Airport. The pilot, Major Daryush Kheyrkhah, asked for political asylum from the Egyptian Government. Major Kheyrkhah, 37-years-old, attended a press conference after surrendering to Egyptian officials. He stated that he had been waiting for a year for a suitable opportunity to flee Khomeyni's hell to join Iran's freedom fighters, but that he had not found the opportunity until now. [short break in transmission] to return 14 centuries back and added that there is no government in Iran today and that all affairs of the country are [words indistinct].

In his interview, Major Daryush Kheyrkhah also stressed that the majority of the Iranian Army officers, who (?are extremely disgusted) with Khomeyni's rule, are impatiently waiting for a suitable opportunity to free Iran from the domination of the bloodsuckers who have ruined Iran and killed more than 100,000 Iranians in the past 2 and 1/2 years. This Iranian officer also said that his wife and children, who are now in Iran, did not know of his decision. He added that today is the birthday of his (?5-year-old) son.

Reports received indicate that Egyptian Government officials have arranged for the return of the aircraft and three other passengers to Iran. The three passengers of the aircraft are to return to Iran for family reasons.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON PLANE CRASH IN USSR

LD261751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a statement on the new plots by the Zionist AP news agency against the Islamic revolution of Iran. The statement says:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "And you scheme and God schemes, and verily God is the better schemer." [Koranic verse] Following imperialism and international Zionism's plot for bombarding Iraq's nuclear powerplant, which was perpetrated in order to save Saddam from certain downfall, and which virtually showed a form of mutual desire by the East and the West to safeguard and protect this anti-Islamic regime; following the penetration of our Muslim combatant forces into Iraq; and also on the eve of International Jerusalem Day once again we have witnessed another plot, with the collaboration of the Eastern pole of global oppression [the USSR] against our revolution.

The issue is that, following the claim by the Soviet Union concerning the crash of an Argentine plane in that country, and its [the USSR] informing Iran that no trace of the said plane is left, the American AP news agency, which is run with American Zionists' money, as ever has dispatched a lengthy fairy tale to the world purporting to be the truth: that is, the crashed plane was traveling between Tel Aviv and Tehran and was carrying arms from Israel to Iran.

Now, the question arises: Could there not be a connection between the Soviet claim to the effect that the Argentine plane has been completely destroyed and that it is impossible and futile to dispatch an investigation team, and the claim by the Zionist news agency? Are the inquisitive oppressed people of the world not asking: How could an accident occur in vast, open space and leave no trace? And, if this accident did occur, what has happened to the plane?

Our great nation knows the extent of the enmity of the Zionist and American news agencies toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran refutes this shameless lie, saying that such plots cannot prevent our nation from standing alongside the Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian combatants fighting for the liberation of beloved Jerusalem from the claws of usurping Zionism. Our nation is determined not to rest even for one moment until all traces of global oppression have been erased throughout the Islamic world. And such plots against the Islamic revolution of Iran will be of no benefit to the world devourers but will only increase the great tide of the Islamic revolution.

Our nation is determined to fight to its last breath to put the aggressor in his place on our western and southern fronts, and no conspiracy will stop our nation from this holy crusade. The American regime of Saddam is doomed, and these plots will have no effect on this condemned issue.

RAJA'I QUESTIONED ON ARMED FORCES, NEWS HEADQUARTERS

LD242356 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Supreme Defense Council met tonight, chaired by the prime minister. The meeting was attended by the members of the Provisional Presidential Council; Musavi-Ardabili, president of the Supreme Court; Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis; Hoseyn Musavi, foreign minister; Brigadier General Fallahi, acting chief of the Joint Staff; Brigadier General Zahir-Nezhad, commander of the ground forces; Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force; and a number of other army and revolution guards corps commanders. The meeting dealt with the country's current issues, the situation on various battlefronts and recent victories achieved by the Islamic combatants, following which appropriate decisions were adopted.

Our correspondent spoke to Prime Minister Raja'i afterwards, as follows:

[Begin recording] [Question] What issues were raised at the Supreme Defense Council?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To start with, tonight's meeting dealt with a visit to Abadan and the southern fronts by Brigadier General Fallahi. He reported to the council about the visit. Then the council adopted certain decisions, including a decision concerned with the duties of irregular forces fighting under the late Dr Chamran. In this connection it was decided that these forces should operate under the army until the war is over. As far as their operating procedures are concerned, these forces are to act as before. However, as I mentioned, as far as their duties are concerned they will come under the army's special tutelage.

Toward the end of the meeting, we had a very interesting meeting with our army commmander brothers. This was held in an atmosphere of complete understanding, during which the commanders reported on the situations on the various battlefronts. These meetings, which are to be repeated in the future, will hopefully be held in an atmosphere of more understanding. I am gradually beginning to see signs of unity and heartfelt approaches in obviating the forces obstructing the progress of the revolution. I do hope that such an atmosphere will become warmer and more sincere with each day that passes.

[Question] Would you please comment on the situation on the battlefronts and the morale of our combatant brothers?

[Answer] According to Brigadier General Zahir-Nezhad, the situation on the battlefronts is very satisfactory, especially our brothers' morale at all levels, including the corps, the army, the gendarmerie and the popular forces. Brigadier General Zahir-Nezhad recalled that he was deeply moved by the considerable combat readiness after 12 months of fighting. His report of the attitude impressed the Supreme Defense Council as well. I wish them all success.

[Question] What about the recent victories achieved by the Islamic forces?

[Answer] I believe that our brothers and sisters ought to wait for the news reports carried by the media. I personally prefer the official communiques being issued by the armed forces and the revolution guards corps in this respect.

One other decision taken tonight concerned the reestablishment of a news headquarters; this means that a group, representing PARS, the Central News Bureau [as heard] the corps and the army, will be set up to study war reports. Once reports on the situation are approved by the group, they will be made public. I am hoping that our compatriots will be receiving more accurate and real reports as a result of the care taken by the group in the future. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON CALL FOR CEASE-FIRE

LD262140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Jul 81

[Statement by the Foreign Ministry--date not given]

[Text] In His exalted name. Parallel with the continuation of the Saddam regime's aggressions against our country's southern and western borders, certain murmurs began across the region from the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan to the effect that a cease-fire should be declared on the fronts on the occasion of the start of the month. Meanwhile, Iraq's dictator and his aides tried to give the impression that they are prepared to accept this cease-fire out of their interest in Islam in humanity and peace.

To our nation, the various dimensions of this new plot are and have been clear. However, what has remained obscure and ambiguous is the support given by a few figures respected by the government of the Islamic Republic for Saddam's overtures. Obviously, we cannot equate the motives of such figures with those of Saddam and government leaders of the region's reactionary states who have embarked upon such overtures in order to maintain Saddam. Consequently, the Foreign Ministry deems it necessary to respond to this latest plot--namely, the distinguished and respected figures [as heard]--while understanding their motives, by explaining a number of points.

Based on our Islamic role, we think that these requests emanate from the interest these government leaders have in dear Jerusalem and from their hostility toward criminal Zionism, and that these brothers are inspired by their conviction in Islamic principles and its anti-injustice characteristics. Obviously, those who exploit the holy month of Ramadan for a cease-fire know better than anyone else that Islam, more than any religion, ideology and doctrine, shows decisiveness against the bullies, aggressors, exploiters and satanical-natured ones. Thus, we regard ourselves justified in asking those government leaders who are interested in Islam and the interests of Muslims:

1. Are they prepared, for the sake of a cease-fire which looks more like a plot than prelude to peace, to trample underfoot the rights of millions of refugees, suffering and martyr-giving human beings? In principle, moreover, does the leadership of a nation have the right to take such an attitude?

2. We ask these government leaders whether they really believe that Iraq is prepared, side-by-side with the Palestine nation, to fight for the liberation of Jerusalem? Is this Saddam not the same one whose agents have been busy hunting and assassinating leaders of the PLO throughout the world? Is the Iraqi regime not the same one that even right now is trying, by planting bombs in Kuwait and in the UAE, to force them to support it? Are these government leaders so easily optimistic to the extent of imagining that one day Iraqi MiG's and Mirage aircraft will be used against Israel? Are they not able to observe the evil alliance of the reactionary regimes of Jordan, Egypt and Morocco with Saddam? Can they not see how and from which countries Iraqi war equipment is received?

3. Do these government leaders who are faithful to Islam know that the Iraqi regime is a regime that has waged war on God, that murders Islamic leaders, like Ayatollah as-Sadr, in so horrible a manner? It is difficult to imagine that these government leaders would be so ignorant of the Saddam regime's crimes against Islam and Muslims. If this is so [as heard], how is it that so far there has not been a simple protest against these crimes as dictated by Islamic duty?

4. Have these leaders faithful to Islam, who are chiefly from the Arab nation, not realized yet that, contrary to Islamic teachings, the Saddam regime makes a distinction between Arab Muslims and non-Arab Muslims and that he describes sincere Iranian Muslims as Magi and fire worshippers merely because they have risen to defend the sanctity of Islam and thus fan the flame of fanaticism of the era of ignorance [reference to pre-Islamic period] among the Muslim nation?

Do these leaders see in Saddam a foul man of racist thought, and do they realize that this attitude could bring about a vast gulf between 100 million Arabs and 900 million non-Arab Muslims--that is, a gulf between the Arab and non-Arab Muslims, the first opposition to which would come from million-strong masses of Muslim Arabs? Have they said or written a single word so far against this tendency?

5. These brothers who, resorting to the holy month of Ramadan, demand a cease-fire from Iran and who certainly know that in the blessed Koran the Muslims are advised to take the side of the wronged one in a battle against an aggressor--although we ourselves feel we have enough strength to fight against the aggressor--nevertheless, should they not, at least verbelly, have condemned these aggressive brothers? Is condemning the aggressor not a help to end the aggression? For us, a call to a cease-fire while the aggressor is on our soil is tantamount to a call for leaving Islam and its obvious principles.

Nevertheless, we understand the interest of these brothers whom we respect in an all-embracing mobilization for a struggle against imperialism and Zionism, and thus declare that despite the existence of aggression on the western and southern borders of our country we are ready, along with all Muslim peoples the world over--be they Arabs, Turks, Africans or Asians--to wage a war against imperialism and Zionism. Our nation over the past 3 years proved that it is serious in this pledge, and in order for our nation to be able to do this, it should be able to crush this American aggression, which is manifested in the form of Saddam's imposed war, with or without the help of other Islamic countries. We invite all these government leaders, including Mr Sekou Toure, who enjoys deep respect among African leaders--as a step towards ending the war and a universal mobilization of Muslims for a struggle against Zionism--to identify the aggressor as soon as possible and decisively and without leniency among their own nation and the world at large. We officially declare that our valiant and Islamic army and the revolutionary and self-sacrificing guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran are prepared, along with their Guinea, Palestinian, Syrian, Lebanese and Algerian brothers, to hold machineguns in their hands to liberate the occupied Palestine territories. At the same time, we declare that our nation will be able to effectively and decisively take part in the battle against Zionism and imperialism, along with other world Muslims, when the hand of imperailism which has come out of the sleeve of Saddam is cut off.

Our nation will not allow anyone to accept a cease-fire against its will, against its desire for the victory of truth over falsehood and of Islam over blasphemy, against Islam in favor of a victory by blasphemy. Contrary to Saddam, who regards this as a war by the Magi, we regard it as a war between Islam and blasphemy, and we are certain that the existence of a blasphemous and racist man as manifested in the Saddam regime's attitude is one of the effective factors behind this imposed war--even though we know that the Iraqi nation dislikes Saddam's insane racism, a man who is the cause of discord between 100 million Arab Muslims and 900 million non-Arab Muslims. We are certain that the million-strong masses of Arab Muslims are themselves against the racist and anti-Islamic regimes, and Mr Sekou Toure knows well that believing and faithful Arab Muslims regard themselves as part of the vast and great world of Islam and that they reject any blasphemous racist attitude or thought. We are prepared to prove this truth, to put it to the judgment of millions of Arab and non-Arab Muslims in a general referendum during this year's Hajj ceremonies. We are prepared to raise this question with all the faqihs [experts in Islamic jurisprudence] and Muslim ulema throughout the world, including in brother Arab countries. We are confident that the answer will result in declaring Saddam as an infidel and his train of thought as blasphemous.

Time and time again we declared that the way to struggle against Zionism and imperialism lies in the world of Islam and, consequently, in preventing wars such as that imposed upon us by Saddam's regime, and in forming a broad Islamic anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist front. We are ready to shake the hand of any force that is struggling and faithful to Islam to this end.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

NVOI ASSAILS BANI-SADR-MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ ALLIANCE

TA250601 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Unattributed commentary: "A Warning to the Sincere Members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: In recent days the mouthpieces and Western masters of Bani-Sadr have been broadcasting every now and then certain nonsense in the guise of messages from former President of Iran Bani-Sadr. All his statements, writings and diaries are an indication of a sick mind and an egoist creature who is suffering from the malady of self-centrism, and who, in order to satiate his egoism, resorts to any treachery. In light of this, his messages are not fit for discussion and review.

However, in the recent message of the deposed Bani-Sadr, there is talk of the establishment of a council called the national council of resistance [shoray-ay-e melli moqavemat] which would include the participation of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization and any other organization that is prepared to struggle against the existing system of our country and which should allegedly safeguard the Iranian revolution. The important thing is that Mr Bani-Sadr's addressee in this message is Mr Mas'ud Rajavi, one of the leaders of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization. In other words, Bani-Sadr proposed to Mr Rajavi the establishment of such a council which, according to his recommendation, should play the role of a Majlis until the holding of so-called free elections.

The question for members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization is why did Bani-Sadr call on Mr Mas'ud Rajavi to implement this proposal, or to put it correctly, this American plot? What connection can exist between the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization--an organization whose individuals and members at one time sacrificed themselves as much as possible in the course of the revolution and for fulfilling it--and Bani-Sadr and his gang, whose treason to the Iranian nation and to the revolution is now more evident than ever?

Bani-Sadr is not an unknown person in our society. From the very outset some of the revolutionary forces, by following his activities and appraising his deeds, rightly recognized him as an ambitious element, pretending to be Muslim and a steam roller for reviving the domination of the West and the enemy of every progressive thought. These forces, on the eve of the election for the first president of our country, warned that Bani-Sadr's candidacy for the presidency should be avoided. However, lack of attention by the revolutionary authorities to the warning of the revolutionary forces caused this ambitious element, agent and instrument of imperialism to be elected.

If no one else knows, the leaders of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization are well aware what blows Bani-Sadr inflicted on the revolution and its gains during his presidency. They are aware that Bani-Sadr and his gang in those days resorted to the crudest propaganda and provocations against all progressive organizations, including the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization. What has happened now that this same Mr Bani-Sadr has found his ally in the leaders of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in order to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic and to oppose the revolution's and the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line? Are the sincere, patriotic and enthusiastic individuals of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization willing to see themselves in the same line with the Bani-Sadr and Qasemlu gang and their associates, the compromising liberals, and all the counterrevolutionary groups within and abroad?

It is beyond comprehension how individuals and members of a group like the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization--who struggle against imperialism, defend the toilers and strive for establishing a society of justice divorced from exploitation--could tolerate an alliance with the Bani-Sadr gang that is connected by thousands of visible and invisible threads with all counterrevolutionary groups.

It seems that the majority of sincere, patriotic and committed members who are still in the ranks of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization regard the inauspicious alliance with Bani-Sadr and his liberal associates as a disgrace to themselves.

The existence of [word indistinct] inadequacies, limitations and, in some cases, law breaking by some in the present ruling authority; the presence of blind fanaticism, superficiality and monopoly seeking in Iran's revolutionary society is of course a phenomenon that is not only undesirable, but dangerous to the revolution and Iran's future. However, the existence of these phenomena can under no circumstances justify association with the enemies of the revolution, the masked and unmasked agents of imperialism or the railroading liberals. How can it be understood that the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, an organization that had at one time participated in the revolution, made sacrifices, and at the beginning of the revolution, defended with frankness, courage and realism the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line, could in practice--whether willingly or unwillingly--be at the side of the counterrevolution; that is to say, at the side of the liberals, the representatives of the feudalists and dependent capitalists, and all the domestic and foreign enemies of the republican system? We never claimed and do not say that the aim of these counterrevolutionary groups and minigroups opposed to the system of the Islamic Republic is identical with the aim and program of individuals of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization. No, we say you are actually treading the same path, and willingly or unwillingly, are supplying grist for the mill of groups that are the enemies of the revolution and your enemies, sincere members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization. They want to exploit you as cannon fodder in order to implement their antinational and counterrevolutionary aims. We say your place is at the side of the true revolutionary forces and the steadfastness front, not in the axis of Bani-Sadr, Yazdi, Entezam and others. We say, assuming the impossible, should these counterrevolutionary groups succeed in their anti-Iranian plans, they will first come after you, members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, and will cut off your head. The life and history of national liberation and anti-imperialist movements in many countries during this very recent two or three generations has proved the validity of these claims.

Bani-Sadr's invitation to the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization for cooperation should be a warning to all the sincere, enthusiastic and patriotic members of this organization who should distinguish the right path from the wrong path and friend from foe, and should return to the steadfastness front, the front of the true revolutionary forces and the million-strong masses.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 579-580

579: 24 Jul Report

LD241820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Jul 81

[Communique 579 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. On the basis of reports received from the battlefronts, in the last 24 hours exchange of heavy-weapon fire continued in operational zones in the west and south of the country, with our forces enjoying superior fire power.

On the Marivan front, as a result of fire by the units based at this front, 2 trailers--1 Ural and 1 Zil--belonging to the enemy were destroyed and approximately 150 of the personnel of Saddam's army were killed or wounded.

In the areas of Ilam and Qasr-e Shirin, exchange of fire continued, resulting in some of the enemy's equipment and weapons being damaged.

In the Ahvaz area, the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran fired on enemy positions, destroying one ammunition vehicle and one ammunition dump belonging to the aggressors, killing several Iraqi military personnel and also wounding several.

Yesterday the enemy used mortars to shell some areas in the city of Abadan, resulting in the destruction of several residential units and taking human lives. Also today, as a result of the artillery fire by Saddam's army on the residential areas in Ahvaz, the city's inhabitants suffered losses and casualties.

Opening fire on the aggressors positions in the occupied zone of Khuninshahr, the combatants of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran succeeded in destroying three assembly buildings, one observation post and one heavy-machinegun emplacement. In these operations, several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

In the western Dezful region, the combative elements of the ground forces opened fire on the enemy's armored equipment and personnel, destroying one tank, two vehicles and one ammunition dump of the aggressors and wounding nine of the enemy personnel.

In the last 24 hours intrusions by enemy aircraft into the airspace of the country's southern and western cities have been foiled by the air defense's timely fire.

580: 25 Jul Report

LD251955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Communique 580 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran continue with their relentless battle against the enemy and inflict considerable losses and casualties on the aggressors. Some of the operations carried out by the self-sacrificing soldiers of Islam in the last 24 hours are as follows:

The powerful units of Islam fired on the Iraqi aggressors' positions on the Abadan-Khuninshar front, destroying two enemy tanks, two personnel carriers, one gun, one mortar, eight ammunition dumps, three RPG-7 emplacements and nine observation posts, killing or wounding several Iraqi personnel. The navy valiants fired on the occupied sector of Khuninshahr, destroying two enemy vehicles, one ammunition dump, and a number of observation posts and trenches of the invading Iraqi Army.

On the Abadan-Mahshahr axis, our combatants destroyed one Iraqi 23-mm gun, one tank and four ammunition dumps and damaged one loader. On the Arvand front, our forces' fire destroyed one tank and two ammunition dumps of the Iraqi aggressors and killed or wounded several Iraqis. Yesterday the enemy heavily shelled the city of Abadan, inflicting some losses and casualties.

Exchange of fire between our forces and the Iraqi aggressor army continued on the western fronts. The Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran shelled two enemy bases in the vicinity of Panjwin. One base was destroyed and the other was considerably damaged. During these operations several Iraqi personnel were killed or wounded.

The enemy aircraft violations of the war zones were checked by our vigilant air defense units.

On 21-22 July five of the brave combatants of the ground forces and one gendarmerie valiant were martyred while defending the Islamic homeland. Peace be upon their souls and long may their memories live.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran